

Message Text

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71

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SCA-01 SCS-03 CPR-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /061 W

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R 151155Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

INFO AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

SECSTATE WASHDC 4665

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3875

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PINT, IN

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO STATES WITHIN CONSULAR DISTRICT

1. DURING A CONVERSATION BETWEEN CONGEN COURTNEY AND FORMER CHIEF SECRETARY (GUJARAT) L. R. DALA ON MARCH 8, DALAL COMMENTED THAT DIPLOMATS OF "GREAT POWERS" (PRESUMABLY US AND USSR) WERE UNDER NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE HANDICAPS IN TRAVELING TO GUJARAT AT PRESENT TIME. NO MAJOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL COULD TRAVEL THERE, DALAL SAID, WITHOUT HAVING VISIT EXPLOITED BY THOSE ANXIOUS TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR VIGILANCE IN POINTING UP "SUBVERSIVE" ACTIVITIES BY FOREIGNERS. DALAL SUGGESTED US KEEP INFORMED ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN GUJARAT BY TALKING WITH VISITORS FROM GUJARAT TO BOMBAY AND THROUGH "THIRD PARTY" VISITS.

2. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT YOU SHOULD BE DISCREET IN YOUR TRAVEL TO SENSITIVE AREAS WITHIN YOUR CONSULAR DISTRICT BUT ARE NOT PREPARED TO PARALYZE OUR ABILITY TO TRAVEL COMPLETELY. AS ALWAYS, SUCH TRAVEL AS YOU AND OTHER CONSULS GENERAL UNDERTAKE SHOULD ALWAYS BE PROTECTED BY PRIOR NOTIFICATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM THE SENIORMOST STATE LEVEL OFFICIALS AND YOUR CONTACTS WITHIN THE STATES SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITH DUE REGARD TO SPECIAL SENSITIVITIES AS YOU HAVE BEEN QUITE APPROPRIATELY DOING ALREADY.

3. WE ARE PREPARED TO SPEAK QUITE FIRMLY WITH MEA SHOULD YOU
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OR OTHER OFFICERS BE IMPROPERLY CRITICIZED FOR EXERCISING YOUR

LEGITIMATE RESPONSIBILITIES.

SCHNEIDER

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